

Dafnis Prieto Sextet

Ensemble members:

NAME	INSTRUMENT
Dafnis Prieto	Drums
Felipe Lamoglia	Saxophones
Peter Apfelbaum	Saxophones, melodica
Avishai Cohen	Trumpet
Manuel Valera	Piano
Yunior Terry	Bass

Title of the commissioned work: The Emotion Series: Taking the Soul For a Walk

Composer's Statement:

Introduction: We are full of emotions, and those emotions inform our reactions to events and create their own consequences. A piece of good or bad news can change our emotional state in just one second, like magic in our brain, allowing us to fly and travel without a physical body, reshaping reality and even our memories with an inventive imagination so that they become a new place and a new reality. Even one specific sound can change our emotions, lead to the emotional unbalance of a specific situation, and that is what I am trying to point out in this work. The emotion can also go in a different direction from the predictable one, leading to the unanticipated alteration of our most subtle senses. We can feel our emotions, the reaction of our subconscious before our conscious reaction is even known to us. These emotional processes happen in me and most probably in all of us, as the music enters our ears before it touches infinity and disappears.

The way it is written, the piece is more like a play, but with the music as the text, so that music becomes the communicative device at all times. I use mostly minor tonalities in the whole series of emotions because that is how I've sensed the energy and emotion in the world lately - nothing but minor and also aggressive sounds. I also used minor cords with a Major 7, or adding the 6 and of course the combination of cords like F/F#min major 7 and adding the 6 or the 9 and so on. The rhythm emerges from the same zone of the harmonic approach, meaning that there is a touch of drama and emotion in the overall rhythm section, using tension and release. This series use different traditional rhythms from my background such as Afro Cuban 6/8, Cha Cha Cha and Cuban Songo etc, also expanding them into new meters and textures. The melody is very controversial in her appearance, sometimes coming and going on top of the rhythm section with polyrhythmic lines and sometimes interacting or reacting to the rhythm section or within herself (horns).

The commissioned work comprises 8 of the 12 tunes on my new recording "Taking the Soul for a Walk," released in May 2008 on my own label, Dafnison Music.

Length of the work:

60 minutes

Recording:

Commercial CD available upon request

Stated Technical Requirements:

A professional quality PA System with a minimum of five monitor wedges (six are ideal) and a minimum of four separate monitor mixes, and condenser microphones for piano, two saxophones and trumpet. Number of microphones for drums according to room size, with a minimum of 2 OH and snare and kick drum microphones. One vocal microphone w/boom positioned at drums for announcements.

Instruments & backline:

One (1) acoustic GRAND PIANO, preferred brands are Steinway, Bosendorfer, Yamaha
One (1) BASS AMPLIFIER, preferably Gallien Krueger 800 amp head with Hartke speaker cabinet (1x15")
One (1) professional, high quality DRUM SET, preferably YAMAHA
Detailed tech rider and stage plot available upon request

Contact Information:

Composer:	Dafnis Prieto
Booking contact person:	Hans Wendl Produktion
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